Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SY-10 SCS-03 SCA-01

NIC-01 IO-13 PPT-02 FBIE-00 RSR-01 /120 W

O 230958 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9867
INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CASC, UR

SUBJ: JDL DEMONSTRATION IN MOSCOW

REF: MOSCOW 7433, STATE 122186, STATE 121954

- 1. ACTIVISTS DEPARTED MOSCOW SAFELY, 100 0 LOCAL, JUNE 23, ON AEROFLOT 503 TO ISTANBUL. AFTER SPENDING DAY IN ISTANBUL, GROUP WILL PROCEED TO TEL AVIV. GROUP PLANS TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN ISTANBUL OR TEL AVIV, AS WELL AS MEET WITH RABBI MEIR KAHANE IN ISRAEL.
- 2. MEMBERS OF GROUP DESCRIBED THEMSELVES AS AFFILIATED WITH NEW YORK COUNCIL ON SOVIET JEWRY, AND STATED THAT THEY WERE LINKED WITH PREVIOUS GROUP WHICH HELD DEMONSTRATIONS AT MOSCOW OVIR. GROUP LEADER APPEARED TO BE SOLADAR (MOSCOW REFTEL) WHO APPARENTLY AFFILIATED WITH AMERICAN OFFSHOOT OF ISRAELI RIGHT WING HERUT PARTY. GROUP MEMBER HIKIND APPEARED TO BE ONLY COMMITTED JDL REPRESENTATIVE. OTHER ACITIVISTS APPARENTLY REPRESENTED MORE MODERATE GROUPS.

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3. GROUP, WHICH CLAIMED IT WAS SURVEILLED BY SOVIETS AT KENNEDY AIRPORT AND ON FLIGHT TO MOSCOW, WAS DETAINED IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL AT SHEREMTYEVO AIRPORT, MOSCOW, 0500 LOCAL, JUNE 22. BELONGINGSOF GROUP WERE COMPLETELY SEARCHED AND MEMBERS OF GROUP

WERE INTERROGATED SEPARATELY FOR FOUR HOURS REGARDING PURPOSE OF TRIP. THREATS ALLEGEDLY EMPLOYED BY INTERROGATORS, BUT THERE WAS NO ROUGH HANDLING OF GROUP. AFTER QUESTIONING, GROUP WAS SENT TO DETENTION HOTEL AND CONFINED UNDER HEAVY GUARD BY SECURITY ORGANS UNTIL DEPARTURE. GROUP CLAIMED THAT THEY WERE DENIED RIGHT TO TELEPHONE EMBASSY. ON TWO OCCASIONS, HOWEVER, GROUP MEMBERS GAINED ACCESS TO PUBLIC TELEPHONES AND CALLED EMBASSY. CONVERSATIONS WERE, HOWEVER, CUT OFF.

4. AFTER RECEIVING INITIAL INFORMATION REGARDING GROUP, CONSOFF TELEPHONED DETENTION HOTEL BUT WAS REPEATEDLY DISCONNECTED

UPON ARRIVAL HOTEL, HOWEVER, CONSOFF WAS WARMLY GREETED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF BORDER GUARDS AND SECURITY ORGANS. SECURITY ORGANS REPRESENTATIVE DENIED OBSTRUCTING TELEPONE ACCESS OF GROUP TO EMBASSY AND STATED THAT HIS SUPERIORS WELCOMED CONSULAR PRESENCE AT DETENTION HOTEL. SECURITY ORGANS REPRESENTATIVE STATED THAT HIS SUPERIORS REQUIRED GUARANTEE THAT NO DISORDERS WOULD TAKE PLACE IF GROUP WOULD BE PERMITTED TO DEPART ON SCHEDULE TO ISTANBUL. CONSOFF PURSUANT TO THIS REQUEST AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH DESIRES OF HIGHLY DISTRESSED GROUP, AGREED TO REMAIN WITH GROUP THROUGH NIGHT AT DETENTION HOTEL.

5. OTHER THAN RAUCOUS SINGING OF JDAL SONGS, NIGHT PASSED UNEVENT-FULLY, AND GROUP DEPARTED MOSCOW, MORING JUNE 23, UNDER OBSERVATION

OF APPROXIMATELY TWO DOZEN SURVEILLANTS. GROUP, UPON DEPARTURE, STATED THAT ADDITIONAL GROUP OF ACTIVITS PLANNING COME TO MOSCOW IN ATTEMPT STAGE DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUPPORT SOVIET JEWS. DUBS

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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